

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. – 22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously Presented) An air bag covering device comprising:

a cover cap with tear-open edges; and

a decorative element fastened to a surface area of the cover cap and covers at least one tear-open edge,

wherein the decorative element comprises predetermined breaking points at locations where the decorative element covers the at least one tear-open edge, and

wherein the decorative element has a surface area smaller than the surface area of the cover cap such that a portion of the surface area of the cover cap is exposed when the decorative element is fastened to the cover cap.

24. (Previously Presented). The air bag covering device according to claim 23, wherein the decorative element further comprises bending points provided outside a region of the tear-open edges of the cover cap.

25. (Previously Presented) The air bag covering device according to claim 23, wherein material weakenings are provided in the decorative element as the predetermined breaking points.

26. (Previously Presented) The air bag covering device according to claim 25, wherein grooves are provided as the material weakenings.

27. (Previously Presented) The air bag covering device according to claim 25, wherein the material weakenings are provided on a rear side of the decorative element contacting the cover cap.

28. (Currently Amended) An air bag covering device comprising:

a cover cap with tear-open edges; and

a decorative element fastened to the cover cap and covers at least one tear-open edge,

wherein the decorative element comprises predetermined breaking points at locations where the decorative element covers the at least one tear-open edge, ~~and~~
wherein perforations are provided as the predetermined breaking points, and
wherein the perforations extend from a rear side of the decorative element contacting the cover cap to just below a top side of the decorative element.

29. (Currently Amended) The air bag covering device according to ~~claim 28~~ claim 43, wherein the perforations extend from a rear side of the decorative element contacting the cover cap to just below a top side of the decorative element.

30. (Currently Amended) The air bag covering device according to ~~claim 28~~ claim 43, wherein the perforations are continuous.

31. (Previously Presented) The air bag covering device according to claim 30, wherein the continuous perforations are formed by lasers.

32. (Previously Presented) The air bag covering device according to claim 30, wherein the continuous perforations are formed by ultrasonic.

33. (Previously Presented) The air bag covering device according to claim 30, wherein the continuous perforations are formed by cutting.

34. (Currently Amended) An air bag covering device comprising:
a cover cap with tear-open edges; and
a decorative element fastened to the cover cap and covers at least one tear-open edge,
wherein the decorative element comprises predetermined breaking points at locations where the decorative element covers the at least one tear-open edge,
wherein the decorative element comprises a softer carrier material and a harder covering layer; ~~and~~
wherein a material weakening as the breaking point is provided in the covering layer, and
wherein the softer carrier material is disposed between the harder covering layer and the cover cap such that the softer carrier material abuts the cover cap.

35. (Previously Presented) The air bag covering device according to claim 34, wherein a rear side of the covering layer includes the material weakening; and

wherein the carrier material engages into the material weakening.

36. (Previously Presented) The air bag covering device according to claim 23, wherein the decorative element comprises flexible plastic.

37. (Previously Presented) The air bag covering device according to claim 23, wherein a surface of the decorative element is provided with a metal layer applied by sputtering.

38. (Previously Presented) The air bag covering device according to claim 23, wherein a surface of the decorative element is provided with an electroplated coating.

39. (Previously Presented) The air bag covering device according to claim 23, wherein a surface of the decorative element is lacquered.

40. (Previously Presented) The air bag covering device according to claim 23, wherein the decorative element is configured to break at the predetermined breaking points when an airbag is deployed.

41. (Previously Presented) The air bag covering device according to claim 23, wherein the tear-open edges form tear-open sections; and

wherein approximately one fourth of the decorative element remains at one of the tear-open sections when the decorative element tears.

42. (Previously Presented) The air bag covering device according to claim 23, wherein the tear-open edges form tear-open sections; and

wherein approximately one half to one eighth of the decorative element remains at one of the tear-open sections when the decorative element tears.

43. (New) The air bag covering device according to claim 23, wherein perforations are provided as the predetermined breaking points.

44. (New) The air bag covering device according to claim 23, wherein the decorative element comprises a softer carrier material and a harder covering layer; and

wherein a material weakening as the breaking point is provided in the covering layer.